

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH

MICHAEL S. AMES,
Plaintiff,
v.
DEP. TODD CHRISTENSEN,
Defendant.

ORDER DIRECTING SERVICE OF
PROCESS & DISPOSITIVE MOTION,
& MEMORANDUM DECISION

Case No. 2:12-CV-481 DB

District Judge Dee Benson

Plaintiff, Michael S. Ames, an inmate at Utah State Prison, filed this *pro se* civil rights suit. See 42 U.S.C.S. § 1983 (2012). Plaintiff was allowed to proceed *in forma pauperis*. See 28 *id.* § 1915.

Based on its review of the Amended Complaint, (see Docket Entry # 12), the Court concludes that official service of process is warranted. The United States Marshals Service (USMS) is directed to serve a properly issued summons and a copy of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint, along with this Order, upon the following Weber County defendant: **Deputy Todd Christensen**.

Once served, Defendant shall respond to the summons in one of the following ways:

(A) If Defendant wishes to assert the affirmative defense of Plaintiff's failure to exhaust administrative remedies in a grievance process, Defendant must,

- (i) file an answer, within twenty days of service;
- (ii) within ninety days of filing an answer, prepare and file a *Martinez* report limited to the exhaustion issue¹;
- (iii) within ninety days of filing an answer, file a separate summary-judgment motion, with a supporting memorandum; **and**
- (iv) within ninety days of filing an answer, submit a proposed order for dismissing the case based upon

¹ See *Martinez v. Aaron*, 570 F.2d 317 (10th Cir. 1978) (approving district court's practice of ordering prison administration to prepare report to be included in pleadings in cases when prisoner has filed suit alleging constitutional violation against institution officials).

In *Gee v. Estes*, 829 F.2d 1005 (10th Cir. 1987), the Tenth Circuit explained the nature and function of a *Martinez* report, saying:

Under the *Martinez* procedure, the district judge or a United States magistrate [judge] to whom the matter has been referred will direct prison officials to respond in writing to the various allegations, supporting their response by affidavits and copies of internal disciplinary rules and reports. The purpose of the *Martinez* report is to ascertain whether there is a factual as well as a legal basis for the prisoner's claims. This, of course, will allow the court to dig beneath the conclusional allegations. These reports have proved useful to determine whether the case is so devoid of merit as to warrant dismissal without trial.

Id. at 1007.

Plaintiff's failure to exhaust, in word processing format to:

utdecf_prisonerlitigationunit@utd.uscourts.gov.

(B) If Defendant chooses to challenge the bare allegations of the complaint, Defendant shall, within twenty days of service, file a motion to dismiss based on Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6), and submit a proposed order for dismissing the case, in word processing format, to:

utdecf_prisonerlitigationunit@utd.uscourts.gov.

(C) If Defendant chooses not to rely on the defense of failure to exhaust and wishes to pierce the allegations of the complaint, Defendant must,

(i) file an answer, within twenty days of service;

(ii) within ninety days of filing an answer, prepare and file a *Martinez* report addressing the substance of the complaint;

(iii) within ninety days of filing an answer, file a separate summary-judgment motion, with a supporting memorandum; **and**

(iv) within ninety days of filing an answer, submit a proposed order for dismissing the case based upon the summary-judgment motion, in word processing format, to:

utdecf_prisonerlitigationunit@utd.uscourts.gov.

Plaintiff is notified that if Defendant moves for summary judgment Plaintiff may not rest upon the mere allegations in the complaint. Instead, as required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56(e), to survive a motion for summary judgment, Plaintiff must allege specific facts, admissible in evidence, showing that there is a genuine issue remaining for trial.²

ORDER

Accordingly, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that:

- (1) the USMS shall serve a completed summons, a copy of the Amended Complaint, (see Docket Entry # 12), and a copy of this Order upon the above-listed defendant;
- (2) within twenty days of being served, Defendant must file an answer or motion to dismiss and proposed order, as outlined above;
- (3) if filing (on exhaustion or any other basis) a *Martinez* report **with** a summary-judgment motion and proposed order, Defendant must do so within ninety days of filing an answer;

² When a motion for summary judgment is properly made and supported, an opposing party may not rely merely on allegations or denials in its own pleading; rather, its response must--by affidavits or as otherwise provided in this rule--set out specific facts showing a genuine issue for trial. If the opposing party does not so respond, summary judgment, should, if appropriate, be entered against that party. Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(e)(2).

(4) if served with a *Martinez* report and a summary-judgment motion or motion to dismiss, Plaintiff must file a response within thirty days; and,

(5) summary-judgment motion deadline is ninety days from filing of answer.

DATED this 26th day of October, 2012.

BY THE COURT:



JUDGE DEE BENSON
United States District Court